

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00

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USDEPT OF ENERGY WASHDC

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DEPARTMENT ALSO PASS TO USDOC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, ENRG, IT

SUBJECT: U.S. - ITALY ENERGY COOPERATION

1. THE FOLLOWING NOTE HAS BEEN RECIVED INFORMALLY FROM SIMONI, MFA OFFICIAL WHO HANDLES TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF U.S. - ITALY ENERGY COOPERATION, CONCERNING NEXT STEPS ON COAL TECHNOLOGIES.

2. QTE. FOR ITALY THE FIRST OBJECTIVE IS TO DETERMINE THE STATE OF THE ART OF THE TECHNOLOGIES FOR THE USE OF COAL AND ITS TRANSFORMATION INTO GASEOUS AND LIQUID FUELS. SPECIAL ATTENTION IS TO BE GIVEN TO LOW-BTU GASIFICATION TECHNOLOGIES. AS A FIRST STEP, IT WOULD BE SUEFUL TO ACQUIRE ALL NECESSARY INFOR- MATION THROUGH THE COLLECTION OF TECHNICAL INFORMATION DOCUMENTS AND THROUGH VISITS OF ITALIAN EXPERTS TO U.S. EXPERIMENTAL PLANTS. FOR THIS LAST POINT, ITALIAN EXPERTS HAVE SHOWN INTEREST IN VISITING THE FOLLOWING PLANTS:

A) THE LOW-BTU PLANT OF WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT, MANAGED BY COMBUSTION ENGINEERING CO. THIS PLANT IS DESIGNED TO UTILIZE

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LOW-BTU GAS FROM COAL.

B) PLANT MANAGED BY THE LUMMUS COMAPNH, BRUCETON, PITTS- BURGH. THIS PLANTS EMPLOYS THE SYNTHANE PROCESS WHICH PRODUCES DIRECTLY GAS WITH A HIGH METHANE CONCENTRATION ALLOWING AT THE SAME TIME THE USE OF DIFFERENT TYPES OF COAL.

C) PLANT AT TACOMA, WASHINGTON, MANAGED BY PITTSBURGH AND MIDWAY COAL MINING CO. THIS PLANT EMPLOYS THE SOLVENT REFINED COAL (SRC) METHOD WHICH IS CONVERTING COAL WITH HIGH SULFUR CONTENT INTO A LIQUID FUEL WITH LOW SULPHUR AND ASH CONTENT.

D) PLANT OF RIVESVILLE, WEST VIRGINIA, WHICH EMPLOYS AN ATMOSPHERIC FLUIDIZED BED.

E) INSTITUTE OF GAS TECHNOLOGY OF CHICAGO. END QTE.

3. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH WE ARE UNCERTAIN WHETHER THESE PARTICULAR INSTALLATIONS ARE THE MOST APPROPRIATE, MISSION VIEWS THE ITALIAN SUGGESTIONS FOR INCREASED INFORMATION FLOW AND FORVISTS TO U.S. COAL FACILITIES FAVORABLY SO LONG AS THESE STEPS ARE REGARDED AS HAVING COMMERCIAL RATHER THAN TECHNOLOGICAL EXCHANGE POTENTIAL. ITALY, AS NOTED IN REFTELB, HAS VERY LITTLE ADVANCED COAL TECHNOLOGY. AT THE SAME TIME, COAL USE IS EXPECTED TO RISE SHARPLY IN PERCENTAGE TERMS. THIS COAL WILL COME BOTH FROM IMPORTS (PRIMARILY POLAND AND U.S.) AND FROM EXPECTED REOPENING OF THE SULCISMINES IN SARDINIA, WHICH PROVIDE A HIGH-SULFUR, HIGH-ASH, LOW-BTU PRODUCT. THE U.S. CAN BENEFIT WHILE HELPING THE ITALIANS IF WE MAKE AVAILABLE OVER THE NEXT 10-15 YEARS ON A COMMERCIAL BASIS THE ADVANCED COAL TECHNOLOGIES NOW UNDER DEVELOPMENT. SUGGEST DOE ALSO COORDINATE WITH USDOC RE ARRANGEMENTS PLANT VISITS AND DISCUSSION COMMERCIAL POTENTIAL.

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4. ACTION SUGGESTED. FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WITH SIMONI DURING HIS VISIT TO DOE APRIL 5-7. HOLMES

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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